

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**  
**COMMITTEE ROOM**  
**WOBURN CITY HALL**

Voting Members present: Chair Darlene Mercer-Bruen, Councilor Robert Ferullo, Councilor Joseph Demers, and Councilor Charles Viola. Absent: Councilor Joanne Campbell  
Non-voting members present: Councilor Lou DiMambro, President Michael Concannon, Councilor Richard Gately and Councilor Jeffrey Dillon

Also present: Mayor Scott Galvin

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**MOTION** made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Viola to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of October 11, 2022, and to approve; all in favor, 4-0.

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**Order creating Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund:** Mayor Galvin said this order originates from an opioid settlement that was brought about by the Attorney General's office, involving manufacturers and Johnson & Johnson. He said the first installment is about \$150,000 and the total amount Woburn is expected to receive about \$750,000 over the next 15 years. He said the administration thought the best thing to do is create a stabilization fund. He said any money that comes out of the fund would have to be approved by the City Council with a two-thirds vote. He said there is another settlement with pharmacies that will also involve another pot of money. He said he expects those funds to start arriving in August and they will also go into the stabilization funds. He said any expenditures would also need to be approved by a two-thirds vote from the City Council. Chairman Mercer-Bruen read from a relevant memo from Mayor Galvin dated March 2, 2023, as follows: "As reflected in the draft order, opioid settlement funds must be used solely to create or supplement and strengthen resources available to Woburn residents and families for substance abuse disorder prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery. Appropriations to the stabilization fund require only a simple majority vote, while appropriations from the stabilization fund require a two-thirds vote of the City Council." Mayor Galvin said former Substance Abuse Outreach Coordinator Richard Jolly has moved on and there is a part-time position in the municipal budget. He said he would like to make the position full-time. Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Viola that the order "ought to pass;" approved, 4-0.

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**Order to transfer the sum of \$91,110.68 from Mayor Salary Adjustment Account to Library Salaries Account:** Mayor Galvin said the administration and the library workers union have reached an agreement on a 3-year contract. He said money for this settlement was allocated as a line item in the mayor's budget. He said the contract will cover the end of this fiscal year and raises will be retroactive. He said the terms of the contract are enumerated in a document that

was filed with the City Clerk's office. Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Viola that the order "ought to pass;" approved, 4-0.

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**Order to transfer the sum of \$468,478.48 from Mayor Salary Adjustment Account to Police Salaries Account:** Mayor Galvin said the money from this order will be used to cover the raises negotiated with the police patrolmen's union. He said the contract is retroactive 1.5 years. He said the administration and the superior officers union are going into an arbitration hearing on March 23 with the Joint Labor Management Committee. He said the arbitration is binding. He said he is hopeful for a good settlement. Motion made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Viola that the order "ought to pass;" approved, 4-0.

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**MOTION** made by Councilor Demers and seconded by Councilor Viola to adjourn; all in favor, 4-0. Chair Mercer-Bruen adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST

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Gordon Vincent  
Clerk of Committees